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Tel-Aviv, March 3, 2005

BY FAX (703) 872-9306

Commissioner of Patents
US Patent Office, POB 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313
Attn: Examiner Lloyd A. Gall

URGENT

Re: U.S. Patent Application entitled:
METHOD AND ASSEMBLY TO PREVENT IMPACT-DRIVEN MANIPULATION OF CYLINDER LOCKS
Inventor(s): Moshe DOLEV
Application No.: 10/630,916
Our Ref: 1703
Filed: July 31, 2003

Dear Examiner Gall,

In advance of our meeting in your office on Tuesday, March 8th at 10:30 AM, I would like to present to you a short summary of the important points for a better understanding of the present invention in relation to the Stemmerik reference which you have cited.

I hope to be able to show you a short video on the invention (5 minutes), and also a demonstration model.

The Stemmerik reference is based on an inaccurate description of the physical nature of the impact and its result. The reference states, at col. 1, line 65:

"the stroke towards the tumbler pin is transmitted to the driver pin which is thereby lifted without any actual movement of the tumbler pin. By the arrangement according to the invention, the effect of the impact is transmitted through the movable member which constitutes one part of the driver pin".

The statement cited above is inaccurate and this point has been shown in the explanation of the present invention relating to Figures 15 and 16 at page 10, line 16 through line 21.

Also, this can be seen very clearly from the video presentation.

The same physical forces which act on the balls (Figures 15 and 16) also act on the pins in the cylinder lock. This is described with relation to Figures 18 and 19 of the invention specification, beginning at page 12, line 4 through page 13 line 25:

(p. 12, line 5) "immediately after the hammer 62 has struck the Bumpkey 60 ... both the tumbler pins and the driver pins move from their locking positions ...".

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This explanation is in direct contrast to the explanation of Stemmerik. It is stated further at page 13 line 20:

"after the hammer has struck the Bumpkey with an intensity greater than the normal intensity applied to unlock the lock ... the driver pins clear the shear line... the driver pin in chamber T is displaced, however the tumbler pin, which is the longest tumbler pin in this lock is displaced so as to reach and block the shear line."

Stemmerik states that the driver pin is divided into two portions, 10 and 11 and that only portion no. 10 moves in response to the impact, while portion 11 remains in place, see col. 3 lines 13 through 16.

Since this statement is incorrect as has been explained, the Stemmerik device does not achieve the result.

The present invention however, is based on intensive research and experimentation, and presents several alternative embodiments to prevent impact-driven manipulation. The Stemmerik approach was tried by the Applicant without knowledge of the patent's existence, and the results were very poor.

Again, with respect to the present invention, as stated at p. 12, line 10 of the specification, it is clearly explained that both the tumbler pins and the driver pins move from their locking positions, but in the case of the modified pin assembly the driver pin 78 moves less than the standard driver pin, 54 and consequently the shear line is still blocked (p. 12, line 25 through p. 13 line 2).


In Figure 19, it is explained that even if the intensity is greater than the normal intensity used to unlock the lock in Figure 18, the driver pin in chamber T is displaced however the tumbler pin which is the longest tumbler pin in this lock, is displaced so as to reach and block the shear line.

Therefore it is the Applicant's position that claim 1 as currently defined, distinguishes over the cited reference which is inaccurate, and the present invention should be granted a patent.

Since this claim is generic, the patent would also include all the various embodiments of the non-elected species.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss these matters.

Sincerely,


Edward Langer
Reg. No. 30,364